REMARKS

Claims 1-21 are pending in the application. Claim 21 has been cancelled by this amendment. Therefore, claims 1-20 are at issue.

The amendments are described in more detail below. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.121, a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the present amendment is attached hereto following the signature page of this amendment. The first page of the marked-up version of the changes is captioned "Version With Markings to Show Changes Made."

This preliminary amendment adds no new matter. The specification has been amended to insert a new cross reference to related applications. The claims have been amended to conform the claims to U.S. practice.

It is submitted that this amendment should be entered and that the claims are in proper form for examination. An early and favorable action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Should the examiner wish to discuss the foregoing or any matter of form in an effort to advance this application toward allowance, the examiner is urged to telephone the undersigned at the indicated number.

10/031531
531 Rec'd PCT/... 17 JAN 2002

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE
(U.S. National Stage of PCT/US00/11136
filed January 17, 2002)

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

The following cross-reference to related application has been inserted into the specification:

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This is the U.S. national phase application of International Application No. PCT/US00/11136, filed on April 26, 2000, which claims the benefit of provisional patent application Serial No. 60/146,924, filed August 3, 1999.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 21 has been cancelled without prejudice.

Respectfully submitted,

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January 17, 2002